

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04

SIL-01 H-02 L-03 INT-05 FEA-01 /089 W

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R 111905Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6278

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 6478

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, EMIN, PINT, PFOR, PE

SUBJECT: MARCONA NATIONALIZATION - GENESIS OF THE DECISION,
ONE VIEW

REFS: (A) LIMA 6422, (B) LIMA 6395

1. A LOCAL U.S. BUSINESSMAN, WITH CLOSE TIES TO PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY ZIMMERMANN, INFORMED A/DCM RECENTLY THAT ZIMMERMANN DESCRIBED TO HIM THE PROCESS BY WHICH THE DECISION TO NATIONALIZE MARCONA OCCURRED. ACCORDING TO ZIMMERMANN'S ACCOUNT, DURING THE JULY TRIP TO JAPAN OF MINES MINISTER FERNANDEZ MALDONADO, THE JAPANESE WERE NOT AS COOPERATIVE AS THE PERUVIANS HAD HOPED THEY WOULD BE. THE MINISTER REPORTED THIS TO LIMA. HOWEVER, SIMULTANEOUSLY GEN. BOSSIO CONVINCED THE PRESIDENT, IN THE MINISTER'S ABSENCE, THAT THE GOP HAD TO NATIONALIZE MARCONA IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER TO INCLUDE IT IN THE JULY 28 PRESENTATION. VICE MINISTER OF MINES ANTONIO TORD CALLED TO THE MINISTER OVERSEAS INFORMING THE LATTER THAT THE DECISION HAD BEEN MADE TO TAKE THE MINE. THE MINISTER PROTESTED TO TORD THAT "NOTHING HAD BEEN SETTLED YET" AND IT WAS PREMATURE TO TAKE SUCH A PRECIPITIOUS ACTION WITHOUT FIRST WORKING OUT ARRANGEMENTS ON SHIPPING AND
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SALES. BUT THE PRESIDENT HAD DECIDED AND THUS THE

MINISTER WAS FACED WITH A FAIT ACCOMPLI WHEN HE RETURNED HOME.

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE THAT OUR SOURCE IS RELATING TO US WHAT ZIMMERMANN TOLD HIM. WHETHER ZIMMERMANN ACCURATELY REPORTED IS ANOTHER MATTER, BUT THIS VERSION DOES FIT WITH THE SCENARIO AS IT UNFOLDED. IT IS ALSO CORROBORATED BY MARCONA EMPLOYEE CERDAN'S VERSION, REPORTED REF B, AND FRONTADO'S STATEMENTS REF A.
DEAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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